

TOWN HALL  
BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA

Seelye Co.

H.A.B.S. No. 35-9  
HABS  
NEB  
77-BELVU  
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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
DISTRICT No. 35

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
WM. L. STEELE, DISTRICT OFFICER  
2236 ST. MARY'S AVE., OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

Built in 1854 for use as a Bank. It was later tendered for use as the first Nebraska Territorial Capitol building. Bellevue became the Sarpy County seat in 1856 and this building was used for a term of years as a County Court House. It is in use now as a Social Center, Public Library, Council Chamber and City Offices. It contains a one cell "lock-up". The floor joists are rough sawn oak. The foundation walls are rough native stone ashlar and the upper walls are of native brick. The sills and lintels were originally of oak; a few of which still remain in service.

Francis Burt was sent from South Carolina to serve Nebraska as its first Territorial Governor, arriving October 7, 1854. He died October 18, 1854. The first Official Act of the Territorial Government took place in this building in the form of a Proclamation or order having reference to the death of Governor Burt. Soon after this, Omaha was definitely chosen as the Capitol City and the first Session of the Territorial Legislature was called to meet there by Governor Cumings, January 16, 1855.

*Chas. W. Steinbaugh*